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9 January 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Governor Averell Harriman  
Under Secretary for Political Affairs  
Department of State

SUBJECT: Data on Soviet Wheat

1. In response to some questions you asked about Soviet wheat production and consumption on Tuesday, the following may be of interest:

a. The normal production of wheat is about 55 million metric tons.

b. Normal Soviet exports are about 5 million metric tons.

c. The normal annual domestic utilization (this includes consumption, allocation to grain reserves, seeds, waste) is about 40 million metric tons.

2. The estimated production of wheat in 1963 was about 40 million metric tons. This means that there is a deficit of about 10 million metric tons to meet domestic requirements.

3. We know very little about the size of Soviet grain reserves. In fact, the document I showed you on Tuesday contains virtually the only specific data that we have been able to obtain. You will remember that this indicated that grain reserves are estimated at approximately 2.1 million tons and are regarded as being dangerously wrong.

151  
CHESTER L. O'NEILL  
Deputy Director  
(Policy Section)

27 JAN 1964

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